GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1758
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2003
IMPACT OF COLD WAVE ON RABI CROP
SUDARSANA E.M. NATCHIAPPAN

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ICAR has warned that the cold wave in the country is likely to take a toll on the Rabi Crop;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the ICAR has conducted any survey to estimate the loss of crop; and

(d) if so the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) & (b): Yes Sir, the ICAR issued a Hindi News Bulletin on January 13, 2003 and again released a press note on January 22, 2003 regarding occurrence of cold wave, its likely impact on rabi crops and the strategies to be adopted to reduce the effect of cold wave/low temperature.

(c) & (d): The Agricultural Universities located at Ludhiana, Hissar and Pantnagar have made an estimate of the likely impact of prolonged cold wave and foggy weather from end December to 3d week of January on crops. Continuation of cold wave for about 3 weeks decreased the rate of growth in Rabi crops. Effect on wheat is reported to be negligible as the crop recovered and gained desired growth rate from last week of January onwards. The loss in mustard seems to be 15-20 percent. Sensitive vegetable/fruit/plantation crops such as tomato, potato, field pea, brinjal, guava, papaya, ber etc. were adversely affected and loss is predicted to vary from 20-30 percent in some pockets.